



## Mayor Mike Pantelides' Monthly Newsletter



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### July, 2016



The amended Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance, which proposes that school capacity become one of the public facilities that is tested at the time of Adequate



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## **Public Facility Review, became law this month.**

Promises made, promises kept. I told Annapolitans when I was campaigning for office that I would address overcrowding in area schools and this bill ensures that a school capacity test is included in our development application process for the first time in the city's history.

The goal of this ordinance is to ensure that the capacity of the elementary, middle, and high schools can support additional students before an application is approved.

Ward Five Alderman Jared Littmann, Ward Eight Alderman Ross Arnett and I sponsored the bill. A number of amendments were discussed, including capacity standards. A conditional review process will allow projects in restricted areas to continue through the review process contingent upon capacity becoming available or after a six-year waiting period.

The amended ordinance calls for two testing periods. The first will occur after July 1, when the Educational Facilities Master Plan is approved by the Board of Education and again on January 1st.



**Thank you so much to Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Annapolis Maritime Museum for all your efforts in the past 9 months to construct this living**

**shoreline!** We had great time outside planing marsh grass and DNR Secretary Mark Belton joined in planting the living shoreline, making it a great day for all attending.

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**I wanted to give you an update on new programs being implemented by SP+, the city's comprehensive parking firm. Starting right after Labor Day, SP+ will begin utilizing its new License Plate Recognition technology, which will be mounted on two enforcement vehicles and will allow for a more accurate reading of license plates on vehicles that have been parked illegally in a residential district. By mounting the technology on vehicles, enforcement officers can cover routes faster and more efficiently than they previously have on foot.**

Residents have requested that the city impose stiffer penalties for individuals who park beyond permitted time limits in residential parking districts. In the past the fine was \$35.00 for each violation, but City Council adopted a new fine schedule and SP+ will be enforcing the schedule starting on September 6th:

- Fine for initial offense: \$40.00 (Two times the daily maximum garage fee)
- Second violation in a one year period: \$70.00
- Third violation in a one year period: \$105.00
- Fourth violation (or greater) in a one year period: \$140.00

I also asked SP+ to work with local business owners to ensure that employees have options for affordable parking and don't rely on residential parking as an option. SP+ is revitalizing a program that allows employees of local businesses to park at specific garages between certain hours at a reduced cost. SP+ is meeting with local business owners to tailor the program to best fit the needs of their employees.

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**Welcome to Chesapeake Brewing Company, located at 114 West Street in Annapolis.** What a great day to have a ribbon cutting and officially welcome the Chesapeake Brewing company to Annapolis as part of the economic engine that helps drive the city.



**We have been working closely with HACA to get the Newtowne 20 basketball court back up and running.** It was a pleasure to help lay asphalt with our Director of Public Works, David Jarrell and our friends from Reliable Contracting. While we all had a few muscle aches, I was proud of the number of people who showed up to support this great

effort.



**I am proud to announce the City of Annapolis, along with Anne Arundel County and Highland Park have worked together with our respective Councils and Boards to become regionally designated as a Bee City USA®.**

This is the first time a group has worked in tandem to receive the national distinction. Bee City USA is a nonprofit national organization that fosters ongoing dialogue in urban areas to raise awareness of the role pollinators play in sustaining three-quarters of the world's plant species and what each of us can do to

provide them with healthy habitat. All groups involved in this partnership realize the importance of sustaining pollinators, and want the region to become more pollinator-friendly.

I understand the significance of this partnership because honey bees are dying off at an alarming rate. Reports indicate that without these insects, one third of our global food supply could be eliminated.

This collaborative group plans on providing workshops to:

- Designate a Pollinator Citizens Advisory Group to facilitate the Bee City USA Program
- Encourage and coordinate local pollinator habitat and awareness activities
- Provide local educational programs and inform residents on planting native, pesticide-free flowering trees, shrubs and perennials
- Celebrate National Pollinator Week annually and publicly acknowledge the communities commitment to the Bee City USA Program with signage

Ongoing efforts to identify new pollinator-friendly initiatives will involve community outreach to get public input and will be announced in the upcoming months.

For more information about the Bee City USA organization visit [www.beecityusa.org](http://www.beecityusa.org)



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**July was National Park and Recreation Month.** Recreation and Parks Director Michael Morris received a proclamation at Monday's City Council meeting, spotlighting some of the vital programs that help our community to be more active and maintain a healthy lifestyle. I want to personally thank all the employees of the Annapolis Recreation and Parks Department for all they do to keep us fit.